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TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

In re the Application of:

Yasunori INOUE et al.

Serial Number: 09/228,148

Group Art Unit: 2823

Filed: January 11, 1999

Examiner: J. Maldonado

For: **MANUFACTURING METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE INCLUDING AN INSULATION FILM ON A CONDUCTIVE LAYER (As Amended)**

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 23, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 28, 2002, applicants request favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application. Claims 9-18 are pending.

Claims 9-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leong in view of Tu et al. (newly cited) and Wolf. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Tu et al. is not prior art to the present application. More specifically, Tu et al. was filed on April 14, 1998. The present application, on the other hand, claims the benefit of parent application serial no. 08/806,425, filed February 26, 1997, more than one year prior to the filing date of Tu et al. As such, Tu et al. is not prior art to the present application.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the claimed invention distinguishes over the cited art and defines patentable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by applicants would be desirable to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney.

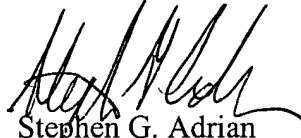
Request For Reconsideration

Serial No.: 09/238,148

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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